

## Message Text

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46

ACTION CU-04

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FOR CU/ARTS

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TAGS: SCUL, PL  
SUBJECT: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS: ST. PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

REF: (A) STATE 276315 (B) WARSAW 6245 (C) WARSAW 6297

1. THE ST. PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA GAVE FIVE CONCERTS DURING THEIR TOUR OF POLAND (OCTOBER 10-17). THEY PERFORMED FIRST IN WARSAW AT THE HIGHER SCHOOL OF MUSIC UNDER EMBASSY SPONSORSHIP ON THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 12 TO A CAPACITY AUDIENCE OF OVER 500 PERSONS. THIS EMBASSY-SPONSORED CONCERT PROVIDED THE ONLY OPPORTUNITY THE ST. PAUL GROUP HAD IN POLAND TO PERFORM "INCIDENT AT WOUNDED KNEE" BY LOUIS H. BALLARD. I WAS THE WORL PREMIERE OF COMPOSITION AND THE EMBASSY WAS PLEASED TO HAVE MR. BALLARD PRESENT FOR THE PERFORMANCE. BOTH HE AND HIS EXCITING NEW COMPOSITION WERE MOST ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED BY THE AUDIENCE. THE ORCHESTRA'S EXQUISITE RENDITION OF COWLAND'S PERSIAN SUITE" MARTINU'S "CONCERTO DA CAMERA" EQUALLY CAPTIVATED THE INVITATIONAL AUDIENCE OF WARSAW MUSIC LOVERS. SEE REFTEL B.

2. UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE POLISH ARTISTIC AGENCY (PAGART), THE ORCHESTRA GAVE PERFORMANCES IN POZNAN, WROCLAW, OPOLE AND KATOWICE ON OCTOBER 13 THROUGHT 16.

A. THE OCTOBER 13 PERFORMANCE WAS HELD IN THE PHILHARMONIC CONCERT HALL IN POZNAN, WHICH WAS FILLED TO CAPACITY (OVER 700).

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B. THE OCTOBER 14 PERFORMANCE IN WROCLAW WAS AT THE PHILHARMONIC

CONCERT HALL BEFORE AN OVER-CAPACITY AUDIENCE OF 950 PEOPLE; THE PHILHARMONIC SEATS ONLY 600. THE ORCHESTRA PLAYED TWO ENCORES AND THEN LEFT, WHILE THE AUDIENCE STOOD AND APPLAUDED FOR ANOTHER FULL FIVE MINUTES.

C. THE OCTOBER 15 PERFORMANCE WAS HELD AT THE PALAC MOSZNA NEAR OPOLE, THUS PROVIDING THE ONLY TRUE "CHAMBER" PRESENTATION. THE ORCHESTRA RAPIDLY ADAPTED THEMSELVES TO PERFORMING ON A VERY SMALL STAGE TO A CAPACITY AUDIENCE OF OVER 300 IN WHAT HAD BEEN THE PALACE'S CHAPEL. THE ACOUSTICS WERE IDEAL FOR A CHAMBER ORCHESTRA AND THE AUDIENCE WAS ABSOLUTELY DELIGHTED, ESPECIALLY BY VIOLIN SOLOIST AND CONCERTMASTER ROMUALD TECCO AND THE CONDUCTING OF DENNIS RUSSELL DAVIES.

D. THE OCTOBER 16 PERFORMANCE WAS HELD IN THE KATOWICE PHILHARMONIC HALL BEFORE ANOTHER CAPACITY AUDIENCE OF OVER 600. AGAIN THE ORCHESTRA'S RECEPTION AND PERFORMANCE CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS HAVING BEEN SUPERB. KATOWICE BOASTS ITS OWN GREAT NATIONAL RADIO AND TELEVISION ORCHESTRA, THE KATOWICE PHILHARMONIC, AND A CHAMBER ORCHESTRA. IN A WEEK WHICH INCLUDED THREE OTHER MUSICAL PERFORMANCES, THE ST. PAUL DREW A CAPACITY CROWD.

3. THE PRESENCE OF THE ORCHESTRA GAVE THE EMBASSY THE OPPORTUNITY TO HOST THREE RECEPTIONS IN THEIR HONOR: AT THE RESIDENCES DCM DAVIS AND POZNAN PRINCIPAL OFFICER MALIN, AND AT THE SILESIA HOTEL IN KATOWICE. THE LATTER EVENT WAS HOSTED BY KRAKOW PRINCIPAL OFFICER GRAY, THUS STRENGTHENING RELATIONS ON AN INFORMAL BASIS WITH A WIDE RANGE OF MUSICIANS AND NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL LEADERS INCLUDING THE KATOWICE MAYOR.

4. EVALUATION: THE ORCHESTRA'S PERFORMANCE THROUGHOUT THIS EXHAUSTING TOUR WAS OUTSTANDING. THEIR SKILL AS MUSICIANS WAS THOROUGHLY APPRECIATED AND RECOGNIZED BY THE ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE THEY MET IN POLAND. IN ADDITION, THEY WERE TO A MAN AN EXCEPTIONALLY COOPERATIVE AND EXTREMELY PLEASANT GROUP OF PEOPLE. CONDUCTOR DAVIES AND CONCERTMASTER TECCO WERE REPEATEDLY PRAISED AND CONGRATULATED THROUGHOUT THE TOUR OF POLAND FOR THEIR SKILL AS MUSICIANS AND THEIR CHARM IN

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PERSONAL CONTACTS. THE EMBASSY WOULD BE MOST HAPPY TO PROGRAM THIS EXCELLENT COMPANY AGAIN.

DAVIES

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